



Autism
Association of WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Early *Childhood* Services

Services for children
up to 7 years of age



This information can be translated into different languages or produced in different formats upon request.

About Us

The Autism Association is one of Australia's largest Autism specific service providers, and the only specialist organisation providing a full range of services for children and adults in Australia.

Our focus is on excellence in providing services to people with Autism and their families. We are deeply committed to enhancing the quality of life of every individual with Autism and passionate about supporting them to live their best life possible.

Our services are based on leading international peer-reviewed research in the field of Autism. We work with each child to maximise their potential and get a great start in life.

It is important to us that you have options and that the support you receive from us is relevant to you and your families needs while adding value to your life.

We are a registered provider for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in Western Australia.

You can talk to our Autism Advisors to find out about the options available so we can help you achieve your NDIS plan goals and make sure you are accessing all funding available for you and your family.



Autism Diagnosis

A diagnosis provides children with Autism access to the support they need to overcome difficulties in education, giving them the skills to reach their full potential.

Our Specialist Autism Diagnostic Clinic provides multidisciplinary assessments for children ages 2-12 years who may have Autism.

All assessments are completed in a single day with our specialist multidisciplinary assessment team including a consultant Paediatrician, Psychologist and Speech Pathologist.

All assessments involve a face-to-face observation of your child and an interview with parents and caregivers. Information is also collected from your child's school or day care, and relevant health professionals they have seen prior to the appointment.

First Steps Autism Day Care

This service provides a long day care setting for children ages 2 to 5 years old who have received an Autism diagnosis or are currently going through the diagnostic process. It is also available to siblings of enrolled children.

The Autism-specific curriculum incorporates the Early Years Learning Framework, as part of the National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care. Each child's program is designed based on their learning profile and skills development.



First Steps for Autism Early Intervention Program

The Early Intervention program provides multidisciplinary therapy for children aged up to 7 years and is based on a wide body of up to date international research.

The program operates with an experienced multidisciplinary clinical team, including Speech Pathologists, Psychologists, Occupational Therapists and Early Childhood Educators. Each family is given a Therapist who is the key contact and partners with the family to develop individual therapy plans that meet the needs of each child. The aim of the program is to boost each child's development and inclusion into mainstream settings.

Our Services Include:

- One-on-one therapy sessions.
- A calm, caring and visually supportive setting for your child to learn in.
- Therapy provided across different locations including your home, your child's day care, school or in the community.
- Our toileting and sleep program which supports independence in these specific areas.
- Transition support for when your child is moving to a new school or new support setting.
- Personalised visual resources to assist your child's independence and communication when at home, school or in the community.
- A range of holiday group therapy programs over the January and July school holidays.
- A custom therapy plan for your child following assessment of strengths, needs and goals through functional assessment.

Our First Steps Therapy Groups:

- An Autism specific group therapy program teaching children how to relate and communicate with others.

Access to Specialised Therapy Teams:

- A Specialist Behaviour Support Team. A dedicated team of Therapists who can work with you and your child to address any behavioural concerns.
- Specialist communication assessment for assistive technology.
- Mealtime management involving a Specialist Therapist assessing and providing recommendations on mealtime safety, participation and enjoyment.





Parent Training

Parent training workshops are designed to provide information, practical strategies and resources to support families in managing everyday situations. These sessions can be delivered as part of a group, one-on-one in the family home or online through webinars.

Parent Support

Our support groups are tailored to the family's journey and focus on the needs at different stages of life. We invite you to join one of our Autism specific support groups!

Weekly MyTime Groups

Supported by an experienced facilitator, our MyTime groups allow parents and caregivers to have some downtime and talk with other families while their children are supervised by play leaders.

Dads Autism Connect Group

Our Dads Autism Connect group provides a relaxed, casual atmosphere for dads, step-dads and father-figures to chat, share and support each other to be the best dad you can be.

First Steps Play Groups

These play groups are available to families who are concerned about their child's development or are currently going through an Autism diagnosis. Parents and caregivers can attend these groups with their children and receive hands-on coaching and advice from our Senior Therapists.

Regional Outreach

We offer a range of services to families living in regional and remote areas through our regional support and consultancy program.

This program includes Therapists providing individual support to families and their support networks via teletherapy, telephone and email consultation.

When our Regional Therapy Team are not travelling to various regional towns to provide training and support, online webinars are provided to families and professionals alike.

School Holiday Program

Families also have the option to travel to Perth during school holidays to participate in our Regional Intensive Holiday Program.

Short Breaks for Children

Everyone needs a break at times. Our Short Breaks Program, also known as Respite, provides a home away from home with fun-filled activities for children ages 6 to 18 years old.

Children can stay on weekends or school holidays to do the things they enjoy, explore friendships, and build confidence and independence.

Short Breaks are provided in a range of ways; either at one of our homes in the suburbs, at the child's own home or through our community support programs.

Individual Options

Independence is different for every person.

There are a range of support services that can be chosen by the individual and their family to assist them to participate in the community as well as at home.

We work closely with each child to identify the support that best suits them. Our aim is to provide the support the person wants, at the time they want it and in the ways that meet their needs. This can include developing a range of new skills and lifelong learning initiatives towards independence, further education, volunteering, or pre-employment assistance.

Information and Advice

If you are looking for support or specialist advice, our Autism Advisor Team are here to help!

Our Autism Advisors provide support and Autism specific advice to individuals, families, carers and community members throughout WA.

The Advisor Team can address any questions and provide you with support, advice and information to link you into services and support options.



The Autism Association of WA offers a wide range of services across all stages of life

Services include:

- Diagnosis
- Autism Advisors and family support for newly diagnosed children
- Early childhood services
- School support service and therapy services for school age children
- Therapy and clinical services for adults with Autism
- Community living support: shared and individual homes
- Short Breaks (Respite)
- Individual support programs tailored to individual needs, including post school options
- Employment placement and support program
- Professional development and training services
- Regional support
- Parent training and support groups



Free call 1800 636 427
(08) 9489 8900

autismwa@autism.org.au

Locked Bag 2 SUBIACO WA 6904
215 Stubbs Terrace Shenton Park 6008



Visit our website

www.autism.org.au



Subscribe to our e-newsletter

www.autism.org.au/contact/newsletter



Locations include:

Shenton Park
Midland
East Fremantle
Joondalup
Gosnells
Baldivis